

McConnell	Roberts	Thune
Menendez	Rounds	Tillis
Merkley	Rubio	Toomey
Moran	Sasse	Udall
Murkowski	Schatz	Van Hollen
Murphy	Schumer	Warner
Murray	Scott	Warren
Nelson	Shaheen	Whitehouse
Paul	Shelby	Wicker
Peters	Strange	Wyden
Portman	Sullivan	Young
Reed	Tester	

NAYS—1

Sanders

NOT VOTING—4

Burr	Risch
Perdue	Stabenow

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session.

COUNTERING IRAN'S DESTABILIZING ACTIVITIES ACT OF 2017—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following the vote on the motion to proceed to S. 722, the Senate proceed to a period of morning business for debate only, with Senator WICKER recognized for 12 minutes, to be followed by Senator MERKLEY for 12 minutes; and that following those remarks, the Senate stand in recess subject to the call of the chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Under the previous order, all postcloture time has expired.

The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

COUNTERING IRAN'S DESTABILIZING ACTIVITIES ACT OF 2017

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 722) to impose sanctions with respect to Iran in relation to Iran's ballistic missile program, support for acts of international terrorism, and violations of human rights, and for other purposes.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the "Countering Iran's Destabilizing Activities Act of 2017".

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Definitions.

Sec. 3. Regional strategy for countering conventional and asymmetric Iranian threats in the Middle East and North Africa.

Sec. 4. Imposition of additional sanctions in response to Iran's ballistic missile program.

Sec. 5. Imposition of terrorism-related sanctions with respect to the IRGC.

Sec. 6. Imposition of additional sanctions with respect to persons responsible for human rights abuses.

Sec. 7. Enforcement of arms embargos.

Sec. 8. Review of applicability of sanctions relating to Iran's support for terrorism and its ballistic missile program.

Sec. 9. Report on coordination of sanctions between the United States and the European Union.

Sec. 10. Report on United States citizens detained by Iran.

Sec. 11. Exceptions for national security and humanitarian assistance; rule of construction.

Sec. 12. Presidential waiver authority.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **ACT OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM.**—The term "act of international terrorism" has the meaning given that term in section 14 of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-172; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note).

(2) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term "appropriate congressional committees" has the meaning given that term in section 14 of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-172; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note).

(3) **FOREIGN PERSON.**—The term "foreign person" means a person that is not a United States person.

(4) **IRANIAN PERSON.**—The term "Iranian person" means—

(A) an individual who is a citizen or national of Iran; or

(B) an entity organized under the laws of Iran or otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of the Government of Iran.

(5) **IRGC.**—The term "IRGC" means Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps.

(6) **KNOWINGLY.**—The term "knowingly" has the meaning given that term in section 14 of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-172; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note).

(7) **UNITED STATES PERSON.**—The term "United States person" means—

(A) a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States; or

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the United States or of any jurisdiction within the United States, including a foreign branch of such an entity.

SEC. 3. REGIONAL STRATEGY FOR COUNTERING CONVENTIONAL AND ASYMMETRIC IRANIAN THREATS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 2 years thereafter, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Director of National Intelligence shall jointly develop and submit to the appropriate congressional committees a strategy for deterring conventional and asymmetric Iranian activities and threats that directly threaten the United States and key allies in the Middle East, North Africa, and beyond.

(b) **ELEMENTS.**—The strategy required by subsection (a) shall include at a minimum the following:

(1) A summary of the near- and long-term United States objectives, plans, and means for

countering Iran's destabilizing activities, including identification of countries that share the objective of countering Iran's destabilizing activities.

(2) A summary of the capabilities and contributions of individual countries to shared efforts to counter Iran's destabilizing activities, and a summary of additional actions or contributions that each country could take to further contribute.

(3) An assessment of Iran's conventional force capabilities and an assessment of Iran's plans to upgrade its conventional force capabilities, including its acquisition, development, and deployment of ballistic and cruise missile capabilities, unmanned aerial vehicles, and maritime offensive and anti-access or area denial capabilities.

(4) An assessment of Iran's chemical and biological weapons capabilities and an assessment of Iranian plans to upgrade its chemical or biological weapons capabilities.

(5) An assessment of Iran's asymmetric activities in the region, including—

(A) the size, capabilities, and activities of the IRGC, including the Quds Force;

(B) the size, capabilities, and activities of Iran's cyber operations;

(C) the types and amount of support, including funding, lethal and nonlethal contributions, and training, provided to Hezbollah, Hamas, special groups in Iraq, the regime of Bashar al-Assad in Syria, Houthi fighters in Yemen, and other violent groups across the Middle East; and

(D) the scope and objectives of Iran's information operations and use of propaganda.

(6) A summary of United States actions, unilaterally and in cooperation with foreign governments, to counter destabilizing Iranian activities, including—

(A) interdiction of Iranian lethal arms bound for groups designated as foreign terrorist organizations under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189);

(B) Iran's interference in international commercial shipping lanes;

(C) attempts by Iran to undermine or subvert internationally recognized governments in the Middle East region; and

(D) Iran's support for the regime of Bashar al-Assad in Syria, including—

(i) financial assistance, military equipment and personnel, and other support provided to that regime; and

(ii) support and direction to other armed actors that are not Syrian or Iranian and are acting on behalf of that regime.

(c) **FORM OF STRATEGY.**—The strategy required by subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 4. IMPOSITION OF ADDITIONAL SANCTIONS IN RESPONSE TO IRAN'S BALLISTIC MISSILE PROGRAM.

(a) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of State should continue to implement Executive Order 13382 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relating to blocking property of weapons of mass destruction delivery system proliferators and their supporters).

(b) **IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.**—The President shall impose the sanctions described in subsection (c) with respect to any person that the President determines, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act—

(1) knowingly engages in any activity that materially contributes to the activities of the Government of Iran with respect to its ballistic missile program, or any other program in Iran for developing, deploying, or maintaining systems capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction, including any efforts to manufacture, acquire, possess, develop, transport, transfer, or use such capabilities;

(2) is a successor entity to a person referred to in paragraph (1);

(3) owns or controls or is owned or controlled by a person referred to in paragraph (1);